## Dobbs Ferry:

The Benefits of Climate Smart Communities Certification





JUNE 4, 2016

# **Dobbs Ferry**



## Dobbs Ferry Energy Task Force



Created in 2008 – members with diverse interests. Prioritize projects with \$avings or other community benefits. Collaborate with staff, elected officials.

**Mission:** Recognizing the delicate balance of our natural resources and assets, the mission of the Dobbs Ferry Energy Task Force is to help Village government, residents, businesses and institutions become more sustainable by saving energy, using resources and renewable energy more effectively, and taking steps to become better stewards of the environment.

The Energy Task Force promotes:

- Efficient use of energy and other resources;
- Waste reduction and recycling;
- Walking, cycling, and use of mass transit; and
- Appropriate land use.

The Energy Task Force seeks to engage the entire community in this mission.



## 2009 – CSC Pledge

Village adopts CSC Pledge with GHG reduction goal of 20% by 2015

## DOBBS FERRY CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITY RESOLUTION

The following is a synopsis of a Resolution adopted by the Dobbs Ferry Village Board 7/14/2009.

- Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community Set goals to reduce green house gas (GHG) emissions and adapt to predicted climatic changes.
  - Continue Task Force to review issues & propose actions
  - Designate point person to oversee initiatives.
  - Maintain membership in ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability - Climate Protection Campaign.

### 2. Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action

Gather data about local GHG emission sources.

- Establish baselines for government and community.
- Develop quantifiable interim GHG emission targets.
- Propose schedule and financing strategy to meet goals.
- Develop Action Plan.
- Report emissions data to the Climate Registry.

#### 3. Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations

Adopt goal of reducing electricity use and GHG by 20% from projected levels by 2015.

- Include new and existing public facilities, community infrastructure, vehicle fleet and community.
- 4. Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations

Supply as much of the local government's power, heat, and hot water as possible from renewable sources of direct generation.

 Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices

Expand "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle."

- Reduce amount of solid waste generated.
- Promote reuse and improve access to recycling.
- Adopt a green purchasing program.

#### 6. Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Planning

Encourage low-emissions development that is resilient to climatic changes.

- Continue to update land use policies, building codes, and community plans to include the most current provisions to combat climate change, reduce sprawl, and preserve and protect open space, biodiversity and water supplies.
- Encourage tree planting and protect forest areas.

#### 7. Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change

Evaluate risks, set goals, and plan for adaptation.

- Identify climate change community impacts.
- Identify potential risk areas, like water supply, parking and recreation, and sewer infrastructure.
- Factor risks into long-term investments and decisionmaking.
- Execute climate change adaptation and preparedness measures, giving priority to the highest risk areas.

#### Support a Green Innovation Economy Incorporate climate protection, sustainability, and environmental goods and service industries into economic development plans.

- Encourage workforce development training and school curricula that support green collar jobs.
- Procure climate smart goods & services for Village operations and support modernizing of local and national electricity grids.

#### Inform and Inspire the Public Lead by example.

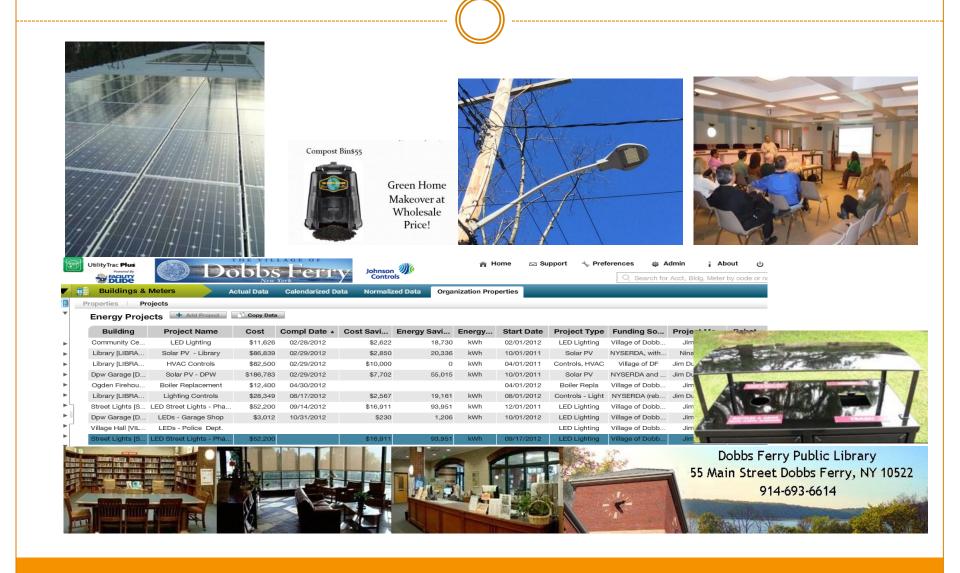
- Highlight local government commitments to reduce energy use, save tax dollars, and adapt to changing conditions.
- Communicate regularly with community about climate protection goals and progress.
- Create a web page resource to help community members find the best ways to "reduce, reuse, recycle" and comply with the programs implemented and maintained by the Village, as well as encourage involvement and advocacy.

#### 10. Commit to an Evolving Process

Acknowledge that research and policy on climate protection are constantly improving and evolving.

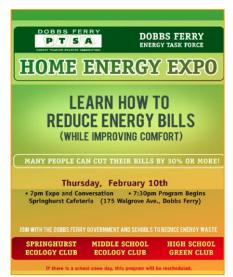
- Be willing to consider new ideas and update plans and policies.
- Compare successes, cooperate and collaborate with neighboring communities.

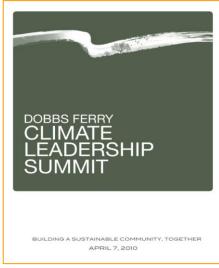
## Sustainability Actions

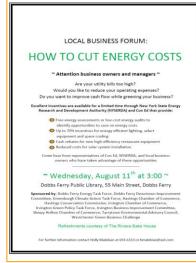


## Community Outreach















In search of efficiency (and sometimes, scale).... Regional Collaboration.

In Westchester,

NWEAC + SWEAC =

Sustainable

Westchester.





Above: SWEAC Sustainability Forum January 2012

**Left: LED Streetlight Forum** 

### CSC Resources and Certification Pilot



CSC allows easier sharing of best practices, provides effective roadmap, positions for grant funding, consolidates environmental leadership.

# Climate Smart Communities Profile

June 2013

#### **Program Overview**

The Climate Smart Communities (CSC) program is a New York State initiative to help local communities reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, prepare for effects of climate change and save taxpayers money. The program is designed to address 10 focus areas, or "pledge elements," outlined in the CSC Predge: http://www.des.org/epicreagy/03/33.html.

New York State is offering technical support to communities that have adopted the CSC Pledge. This profile provides a stepping stone for identifying a technical support service package to help the Village of Dobbs Ferry progress through the 10 pledge elements (see below).

Detailed information on actions completed, in progress, and identified for future action is provided in the tables on the following pages. If a table is missing for a particular pledge element, it means that the CSC program does not have a record of actions taken to address that element.

# THE PARK STREET

#### Village of Dobbs Ferry

#### Local Government Facts:

Adopted Climate Smart Communities (CSC) Pledge: 2009

CSC Pledge Elements Addressed: 10 out of 10

Total Actions Completed: 42

Government Type: Village

County: Westchester County

Region: Lower Hudson Valley

Population: 10,875

#### Climate Smart Communities Pledge Elements:

- 1. Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate Smart Community
- 2. Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action
- 3. Decrease Energy Demand for Local Government Operations
- 4. Encourage Renewable Energy for Local Government Operations
- 5. Realize Benefits of Recycling and Other Climate Smart Solid Waste Management Practices
- 6. Promote Climate Protection Through Community Land Use Tools
- 7. Plan for Adaptation to Unavoidable Climate Change
- 8. Support a Green Innovation Economy
- 9. Inform and Inspire the Public
- 10. Commit to an Evolving Process

Climate Smart Communities Certification Program

Guidance Manual



#### INTRODUCTION

The New York State Climate Smart Communities Certification program represents the next phase in the development of New York's Climate Smart Communities (CSC) program. The CSC program was first established in 2008 to provide local governments with guidance on how to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, save taxpayer dollars, and advance community goals for health and safety, economic vitality, energy independence, and quality of life. The first step in participating in the Climate Smart Communities program is to adopt the Climate Smart Communities program is to adopt the Climate Smart Communities program is jointly sponsored by six New York state agencies, including the Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), the New York State Energy Research and Development Administration (NYSERDA), the Department of Transportation (DOT), the Department of Health (DOH), the Department of State, and the Public Service Commission.

The CSC Certification program was established in 2013 by DEC and NYSERDA, with funding from the DEC Hudson River Estuary Program, through the New York State Environmental Protection Fund, in cooperation with the New England Interstate Water Pollution Control Commission. The CSC Certification program was developed to further engage New York State local governments in the CSC program, to provide a more robust framework to guide local governments in their climate protection efforts, and to recognize their achievements as they make progress.

#### **Program Goals, Objectives, and Principles**

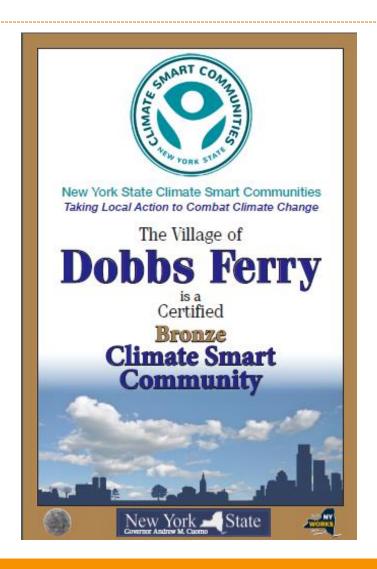
The CSC Certification program was developed with the primary goal of providing a more structured framework and guidance for local governments to advance their climate protection work through the existing CSC Pledge. This certification is based entirely on the existing CSC Pledge Elements. Participation in CSC and the CSC Certification program is voluntary. The CSC Certification program is designed to encourage ongoing implementation of climate protection related actions and to recognize achievements of local governments in every phase of the program.

## CSC Pilot: Dobbs Ferry

- 4 Months
- Liz Dreaper (Village Clerk, CSC Coordinator), me and two interns
- Focus on documenting existing actions (few new easy actions added)

	overnment Name: The Village of Dobbs Ferry								
					To be completed by				
Action #	Action Name	Possible Points		Anticipated Points	How points were earned (note achievement level for tiered scoring)	Documentation Submitted (list doc title and date)	Does Documentation Meet Requirements? (Yes/No)	If no, why not?	Point Earne
Pledge E	lement 1: Pledge to Combat Climate Change by Becoming a Climate	31		31					31
1.1	Pass a Resolution Adopting the CSC Pledge	4		4	Passed resolution on July 14, 2009	-Document Submittal Form -Board of Trustees (BOT) Resolution 3-2009 - Climate Smart Community Resolution	Yes		4
1.2	Create an External Taskforce Focused on Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	8		8	Taskforce created in 2008 to evaluate Mayors Climate Protection Agreement; Dobbs Ferry Energy Taskforce meets regularly	-Document Submittal Form -US Mayors Climate Smart Resolution and request for taskforce, 2008 -Dobbs Ferry Energy Taskforce meeting minutes from 3 mtgs	Yes		8
1.3	Appoint a Climate Smart Community Coordinator	8		8	Elizabeth Draper appointed CSC Coordinator, 7/9/2013	-Document Submittal Form -Board of Trustees meeting minutes 7/9/2013 appointing CSC Coordinator	Yes		8
1.4	Create an Internal Green Team focused on Climate Mitigation and Adaptation	8		8	-Hired Green Team Spirit in 2011 to help form a Green Team -Green team discussions are integrated into Dept Head meetings	-Document Submittal Form -Green Team Meeting 6/20/11 -Green Team Spirit Press Release, 3/3/2011 -Clarification Email from Nina Orville, 11/6	Yes/No	The documentation submitted does not meet the requirements. Nina noted in an email dated 11/6 that green team meetings are integrated into dept head mtgs. Liz will provide mtg minutes	8
	Join a National or Regional Campaign or Program	3		3	Members of SWEAC	-Document Submittal Form -SWEAC Program Final	Yes		3
Pledge Element 2: Set Goals, Inventory Emissions, Move to Action  Establish a Baseline		40		24					24
stablish	a baseline	16		16	2009 GHG Inventory for	-Document Submittal Form			16
2.1	Develop a Government Operations GHG Emissions Inventory		1		haseline year	-2009 Municipal GHG	Yes		

## Strengthens Identify as Sustainability Leader



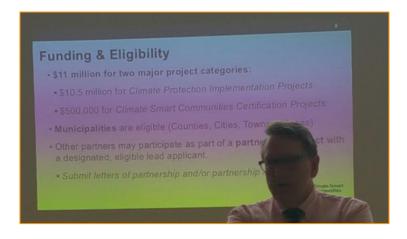




## Grant Funding and Preparedness



Governor Cuomo announces \$11 million in brand new Climate Smart Communities grants focused on climate change mitigation and adaptation





## Thank You!

### NINA ORVILLE

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## **Dobbs Ferry is a Certified Climate Smart Community**

